

Andrew Jackson to John Caldwell Calhoun, July 19, 1830, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

TO VICE-PRESIDENT CALHOUN.¹

¹ Published by Calhoun in his pamphlet of 1831 and republished in various periodicals. The copy given here is from *Nile's Register*, XL. 19. Jackson wrote the date as *June* 19, probably an error for July 19.

Hermitage, July 19, 1830.

Sir: Your letter of the 22d June last has just been received, via Washington City. I regret that mine to you of the 7th of May [June], covering a copy of one to Mr. Forsyth from me of the same date, had not reached you, as it would have prevented you from falling into the gross errors you have, from the unfounded inferences you have drawn from Mr. Forsyth's letter to me, and would have informed you that I had no conversation or communication with Mr. Forsyth on the subject alluded to, before the receipt of the copy of Mr. Crawford's letter, which I so promptly laid before you: To correct the errors into which the inferences you have drawn from Mr. Forsyth's letter have led you, I herewith again enclose you a copy of my letter to Mr. Forsyth of the 7th of May, and his answer thereto of the 17th June last, which I received on the 8th instant, and I have to regret that any interruption of the mail prevented your receipt of mine of the 7th of May, which was mailed the same time mine to Mr. Forsyth was.

Mr. Forsyth having promised, in his letter to me of the 17th June, that he would explain, and by letter, correct you in the unjust and unfounded inferences which you had drawn from his letter; and I must add here, for your information, that, if I understood your other

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allusions, they are equally unfounded. I have never heard it even intimated, except in your letter, that the individual to whom I suppose you allude had the slightest knowledge on the subject, or the most remote agency in the matter. In conclusion, I repeat, I have always met the intimations of your having made before the cabinet, in secret council, against me, injurious movements, with flat and positive denial, and brought into review, by way of rebuttor, your uniform and full approval of my whole conduct on the Seminole campaign, so far as I, or any of my friends, had heard you on the subject; and the high character you sustained for fair, open, and honorable conduct in all things was entirely opposed to the secret, uncandid, and unmanly course ascribed to you by those intimations, and I banished from my mind what I conceived to be unjust imputations upon your honor, by ascribing duplicity to you, and never, until after the intimations were communicated to me, of the suggestions of the marshal, as stated in my letter to Mr. Forsyth, (a copy of which was enclosed to you). It was then that I had a desire to see the statement said to have been made by Mr. Crawford, and, when information [informed] by Colonel Hamilton that such statements had been seen in writing, that I made the request to see it, with the object of laying it before you, which I then supposed would meet your prompt and positive negative. But I regret that instead of a negative, which I had a right to expect, I had the poignant mortification to see in your letter an admission of its truth. Understanding the matter now, I feel no interest in this altercation, and leave you and Mr. Crawford, and all concerned, to settle the affair in your own way, and now close this correspondence forever.

I am, very respectfully, your most obedient servant